Coast Dispatcher

November 1997 Issue 118

Published Quarterly by the Coast Division, Pacific Coast Region, NMRA

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Spring Meet: Sunday, March 1, 1998

California School for the Deaf
Fremont, CA

Letter from the (former) Editor...

With this issue, my seven-year tenure as editor of the *Coast Dispatcher* comes to an end. I've truly enjoyed the opportunity to work on our Division's newsletter, but the combination of a new job 85 miles from home, along with new commitments and the usual family responsibilities, has had an impact on the amount of time I have available for modeling and other activities.

Fortunately for the Coast Division, Brendan Lloyd has agreed to step in as your editor. How time does fly! In 1990, when I first began editing the newsletter, Brendan was a smiling young face behind the registration table at the meets, enthusiastically convincing members that raffle tickets were the best investment of the day. Who could resist? I'm convinced that same enthusiasm will be evident in future issues of the *Coast Dispatcher*.

I'd like to thank all of you, both regular and occasional contributors, who have assisted me by providing material for publication. I'm confident that you will support Brendan's efforts in producing an informative publication, and I look forward to watching the *Coast Dispatcher* evolve with his fresh outlook and new ideas. Thanks especially to our Chief Clerk, Denise Showalter, for her continuing efforts as assistant editor, and in making sure that each issue of the *Dispatcher* made it through the production process.

Richard Brennan

Coast Division

Pacific Coast Region, NMRA

Board of Directors

Superintendent	Brad Lloyd
Division Director	Dave Connery
Chief Clerk	Denise Showalter
Paymaster	Bob Ferguson

Committee Chairs

Achievement	Ray deBlieck
Auction	Bill Burket
Auction Accounting	Bill Swindell
Clinics / Movies	John Marshall
Contest - Model	Bob Wirthlin
Contest - Photo	Joe Pennington
Contest - Switching	Allan Fenton
Layout Tours	Ken Lass
Meeting Sites	(Vacant)
Membership	Ted Culotta
Newsletter	Brendan Lloyd
Nominations	Denise Showalter
PCR Member Services	Bob Ferguson
Publicity	Rod Smith
Quartermaster	Jim Long
Registration	John Spelce
Youth Activities	Chuck Mitchell
Youth Clinics	Frank Markovich

CHANGE OF ADDRESS
Notify: PCR Member Services
530 Fig Tree Lane
Martinez, CA 94553

The *Coast Dispatcher* is published quarterly as a service to members of the Coast Division, Pacific Coast Region, NMRA. Subscriptions are available to non-members at $3.00 per year.

Contributions: Members are encouraged to submit articles on modeling techniques, prototypes, photography, railfanning, or other subjects of interest to the membership. Photos and art are also welcome. Material will be returned upon request. Articles published earn credit toward the Model Railroad Author Achievement Certificate. Contributions and correspondence should be sent to:

COAST DISPATCHER
132 Westfield Circle
Danville, CA 94526

EDITOR: Brendan Lloyd
510-881-4449

Associate Editor: Denise Showalter

Super Details

... Brad Lloyd

'Tis the season for greetings and well wishing, so.....

May your stockings be filled with boxcars,
and your Locomotives always run smooth.

May your trackwork be perfect, and your trains never pick a switch.

May your wiring be awesome, and never create shorts.
And may your LEDs burn long .

May your mountains be majestic, and your Rivers run deep.
And may your trees never get blight or need dusting.

May your benchwork be strong, and your sub-roadbed remain level and true.

May your track stay clean, and your ballast be smooth.
And may your cities be awesome.

May your rolling stock never derail, and your engines never squeak, and may your track plan be perfect.

May your backdrops be the envy of your friends and your scenery realistic.

May your industries be prototypical and your car loads be correct.

May your grades be reasonable and your curves not too sharp.
And may your engine terminals be awe-inspiring.

May your yards be switchable, and your turntables run smooth.
And may your Passenger Stations look busy.

May your 'Hot Shots' never tarry, and your 'Locals' be busy.
And may your 'Streamliners' always look clean.

May your weathering look right, and your buildings be prize-winners.
And may your little people be plentiful.

May your train room be large and work bench immense. And may your tools be unending.

And with all of the above.....May there be enough room left in your house for your family to live!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Your Super,
Brad

Notes from the RPM Meet

...by Ted Culotta

The annual Railroad Prototype Modelers' meet sponsored by Sunshine Models was held October 3-5 at the Holiday Inn in Naperville, IL. This event is one of the larger gatherings of the RPM and attests to the continued growth of accurate, prototypical modeling. For those of you unfamiliar with the RPM, it is a loose association of modelers interested in modeling motive power and rolling stock, as true to the prototype as possible.

The format of the meet is fairly simple. On Friday and Saturday, seminars and clinics are conducted by individuals on various aspects of prototype modeling. Some of the clinic topics this year included Transcontinental Reefer Operations (PFE & Santa Fe... this clinic was conducted by two local modelers, **Richard Hendrickson** and **Tony Thompson**), Fruit Growers Express and Western Fruit Express Operations, UP Freight Consists 1947-1948, Head-end Car Operations, Kitbashing Brass, (also an excellent clinic on soldering), Modeling Pullman Heavyweights, Milwaukee Ribbed Side Boxcars, Modeling a Prototype Scene, Building Resin Kits, and the History of the 40-foot Boxcar as Told Through Models. The individuals conducting these clinics would be familiar to almost all of you, as the clinicians (and the audience members) are a veritable "who's who" of those writing articles for today's modeling and historical publications.

In addition to the clinics, there are a number of entertaining "sideshows". A number of dealers have items for sale, including Sunshine Models, who had their latest kit releases available for purchase. There is also an excellent modular layout for viewing, courtesy of Midwest Mod-U-Trak. Additionally, many modelers display their handiwork so others can view the models and ask questions about techniques. Finally, there are a number of informal "roundtable" discussions about modeling, the industry, etc. which occur continuously.

The event was scheduled to coincide with the Model Railroad Industry Association show which occurred nearby and commenced on Sunday. This gave attendees the opportunity to view the latest in offerings from the industry. If you are interested in modeling with an eye towards replicating the prototype, I would encourage you to put this on your calendar for next year.

To obtain more information (and see photographs of models), visit the RPM Web Page at http://www.rpmrail.org or send a letter indicating your interest in the annual RPM meet along with a self-addressed stamped envelope to: Sunshine Models, Box 4997, Springfield, MO 65808.

Clinics *in December...*

10:00 - SP in the City - Action in the '50s
by Bill Burket

11:00 - WP Railroading - A Chat Room
by Steve Hayes

❋ ❋ ❋ ❋ ❋

Bringing Back a Tradition... Model Trains and the Holidays!

Here's the perfect opportunity to take a break from hectic shopping and the holiday rush. Join the members of the Golden State Railroad Museum as they recall the nostalgia of trains and Christmas time. On November 30th, December 21st and December 28th the Museum will be open and all layouts will be operating for special holiday shows.

Over 10,000 square feet of layouts will be in operation from 1:00 to 5:00 PM each of the three Sundays. This will include N, HO and O scale model trains as well as extensive trolley and narrow gauge operations. Scenes depicted on the layouts include such famous landmarks as the Tehachapi Loop, Niles Canyon, Donner Pass and the Oakland Mole, where passengers were ferried across San Francisco Bay from their arriving trains.

The Museum is located in Miller-Knox Regional Shoreline Park at 900-A Dornan Drive in Point Richmond. Suggested donations for the holiday shows are: Adults, $2.00; Seniors and Children (under 12), $1.00; with a family maximum of $5.00. For more information, call (510) 234-4884. The park and layouts are handicapped-accessible.

Switching Contest

...Allan Fenton

Results of the **John Allen Timesaver** Switching Contest at the September meet were as follows:

YOUTH BRAKEPERSON

1st -	**Greg Reider (age 11)**	27:04

SENIOR BRAKEPERSON

1st -	**Bill Burket**	5:30
2nd -	**Joseph Burket**	8:20
3rd -	**Alan Heavens**	12:43

BRAKEPERSON

1st -	**Bill Armstrong**	7:09
2nd -	**Richard Jayne**	8:14
3rd -	**E. Bond Francisco**	9:46
H.M. -	**Ricardo Fogel**	10:39

Happy Holidays!

Model Contest

...Bob Wirthlin, MMR

The Fall meeting at Santa Clara featured popular vote contests in two categories: motor vehicles and billboard reefers. There were five modelers who entered items, and 49 judges (as I've said before, we need judges as well as modelers to run a contest). Judging in a regular contest is much like what you 49 members did in September – decide how much work did the modeler do and how well did he do it?

We have guidance criteria for each area judged – construction, detail, conformity to prototype, finish and lettering, and scratch-building, but judging is still a subjective process. We usually pair new judges with those experienced, and in your deliberation discussions you'll learn a lot of things to look for which will improve your own modeling. Why don't you volunteer to be a judge at our next meeting? Judges in Division contests earn points toward their Volunteer Achievement Award... and they get to touch the models!

MOTOR VEHICLES

1st - Orv Winders of Sunnyvale for his P.M.T. truck and trailer in SP Daylight colors.
2nd - Fred Verrier of Cupertino for his A&B Builders pickup.
3rd - Fred Verrier for his Caterpillar bulldozer.
Honorable Mention to **Ken Martin** for his unusual Eclipse lumber truck kit-bashed from a photograph taken by his grandfather.

BILLBOARD REEFERS

1st - Robert Bell of San Jose showing a Swift reefer Sun Coast kit with added parts.
2nd - Allan Fenton of Carmel for his NMRA Bulletin reefer, made using sides printed in the *NMRA Bulletin* several years ago.
3rd - Fred Verrier for an "Old Frothingslosh" reefer, also using sides from a long-ago issue of the *NMRA Bulletin.*

Special thanks to **Alf Modine** of Cupertino for showing his award-winning O scale C&NW #1385 4-6-0 steam locomotive, and to **Robert Fabris** of San Jose for showing N scale electric locomotives PRR A6, NYNHH EP1 and Milwaukee E1 in the non-competitive display.

DECEMBER CONTEST

A judged event in all categories:

STEAM LOCOS	**DIESEL/OTHER LOCOS**
TRACTION	**CABOOSE**
FREIGHT CAR	**PASSENGER CAR**
NON-REVENUE	**DISPLAY**
STRUCTURE (OFF-LINE)	**STRUCTURE (ON-LINE)**
YOUTH (12 and under)	**TEEN (13 +)**

Director's Discussion

...Dave Connery

This spring I complete my first two-year term as the Coast Division Director and have agreed to run for a second term. When I was first elected, a friend asked me, "Just what does a Division Director do?" At the time I tried to explain and then admitted I would be in a better position to answer after I had done it for a while. I believe it helps to understand how the Coast Division, PCR and NMRA work.

Within our Division we have our Superintendent (Brad Lloyd), our Paymaster (Bob Ferguson), and our Chief Clerk (Denise Showalter) who are elected to run the Division. They in turn recruit volunteers to chair the committees that help with this task. Thus we have an Achievement Chair (Ray DeBlieck), Model Contest Chair (Bob Wirthlin, MMR), Photo Contest Chair (Joe Pennington), Membership Chair (Ted Culotta), Clinics Chair (John Marshall), *Coast Dispatcher* Editor (Brendan Lloyd), Layout Tours Chair (Ken Lass), Auction Chair (Bill Burket), Auction Accounting Chair (Bill Swindell), Switching Contest Chair (Allan Fenton), Quartermaster (Jim Long), Nominations Chair (Denise Showalter), Registration Chair (John Spelce), Publicity (Rod Smith), Youth Activities Chair (Chuck Mitchell) and Youth Clinics Chair (Frank Markovich). This group meets at least once each quarter to review what has happened the past quarter and discuss activities planned for the coming quarter, especially the next Coast Division Meet. As Coast Division Director I attend each of the Coast Division Board meetings to participate as a member and to serve as a go-between with the PCR Board of Directors.

Within PCR each of the five Divisions elects a Director for a two-year term. In alternate years from Director elections, the PCR elects a President (Charlie Getz) and Vice-President (Chuck Harmon). The President appoints a Secretary-Treasurer (Larry Altbaum) and chairpersons to carry out PCR activities. Within PCR we have an Achievement Chair (Jack Burgess, MMR), Contest Chair (Tony Thompson), Convention Chair (Ray DeBlieck), Publications Chair (yours truly), Membership Services Chair (Bob Ferguson), Membership Promotion Chair (Carl "Tiny" Carsten), Historian (Lisa Gorrell) and Nominations Chair (Denise Showalter). The PCR Board meets at least twice a year to review what has happened and discuss future plans. As your Director I attend each PCR Board meeting, representing Coast Division, and submit a written report of Coast Division activities prior to each PCR Board Meeting.

Every two years we also elect an NMRA Trustee (currently Charlie Getz serves as both our PCR President and Trustee). The Trustee is elected by all NMRA members living within PCR, which includes over 1200 members of PCR and nearly 600 NMRA members living in our area who are not PCR members. This same group votes every two years for offices of NMRA President (Bob Charles) and NMRA Executive Vice President (Allen Pollock). The NMRA Board meets twice annually, once during the days before the NMRA Convention and again mid-year at some other location in the country. The NMRA President appoints a Secretary (Bob Dye) and a Treasurer (Tom Draper) and Department Chairs - Achievement (Pete Moffett, MMR), Convention (Brian Kampschroer), Promotion (Jack Wall), Publications (Dave Cichy), Technical (Ron Gaines, PE), Services (Ben Pearlman) and Non-Rail (Sherri Dye).

As you can see, there are a great number of volunteers involved in bringing you the NMRA's local and national services. Every one of these folks, and the dozens and dozens of volunteers working with each of them, are interested in adding to your enjoyment of the hobby of Model Railroading. Your Director is one of the many avenues you have to affect how all this machinery works for you. That is what the Director does – represents you to the PCR and, through the PCR Trustee, to the NMRA.

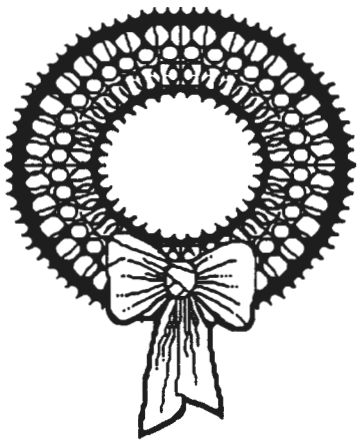
BE A WINNER!!!

***SIGN IN* - GET A RAFFLE TICKET**

***BRING A GUEST* –**
GET AN EXTRA RAFFLE TICKET!

***DONATE AN UNBUILT KIT FOR THE YOUTH CLINIC* –**
GET ANOTHER EXTRA RAFFLE TICKET!!

***WEAR YOUR COAST DIVISION NAME BADGE* –**
GET YET ANOTHER EXTRA RAFFLE TICKET!!!



Membership Corner

...Ted Culotta

I have some exciting news that we hope will be one new way to address the concerns expressed by current and departing (departed) members. The number one complaint that I have heard since becoming involved with membership is that while there are a tremendous number of great modelers with extensive knowledge in our group, it is difficult to gain access to it/them. We have come up with a new program that we hope will resolve this issue.

Beginning in January and running throughout the year, we will be offering clinics at members' homes on their particular areas of expertise. The number of attendees will be limited, but if demand warrants we will try to provide additional dates for those clinics. A listing of clinics for the coming year will be available at the Division Meet on December 7th. These will be offered on dates that are convenient for the presenter, so they may fall on week nights.

I am hopeful that these will go a long way to "filling the void" that seems to exist. They should prove an excellent way for us to not only retain current members, but to also attract new ones.

Lastly, the Pleasanton GATS show will be Sunday, November 23rd. Please look for our table there.

PACIFIC COAST REGION
NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - (NEW) (RENEWAL)

PLEASE PRINT

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

NMRA # _____ EXPIRATION DATE _____ PCR # _____ EXPIRATION DATE _____

PHONE (____) _____ SCALE _____

NMRA/PCR	_____ $36.00	NMRA/PCR FAMILY	_____ $7.00
NMRA AFFILIATE/PCR (No bulletin)	_____ $21.00	(Following three require maintaining NMRA Membership)	
		PCR (One Year)	_____ $6.00 (Requires NMRA Mbrshp)
NMRA YOUTH/PCR (Under 20)	_____ $26.00	PCR (Five Year)	_____ $25.00 (requires 5 yr NMRA)
NMRA/PCR SUSTAINING	_____ $66.00	PCR FAMILY	_____ $1.00 (requires NMRA Family)
NMRA / PCR LIFE (contact office)	_____	BIRTHDATE (Life & Youth Only)	_____

Make checks payable to: **PCR**
Mail form and check to: **530 Fig Tree Lane, Martinez, CA 94553**
(Note: We can not accept NMRA Only on this form)

THANKS FOR JOINING US

Photo Contest

...Joe Pennington

There were twelve entries in the photo contest for September – 5 prints and 7 slides. Thanks again to the judges: **Stan Keiser** (slides) and **Mike Raposa** (prints).

Congratulations to the winners, who were:

PROTOTYPE COLOR SLIDE

1st: David Armstrong - "Big Green Interloper" (a shot of a BN B Unit on the Keddie Wye)
2nd: David Armstrong - "Foggy Morning Wait"
3rd: TIE - David Armstrong and **Mike Raposa**

PROTOTYPE COLOR PRINT

1st: Seth Neumann - "Lunch Stop at Osier"
2nd: Stan Keiser - "Has a Theft Occurred?"
3rd: Stan Keiser - "Riding to the Next Switch"

MODEL COLOR PRINT

1st: Stan Keiser - "Eastbound Freight Passing Local"
2nd: Stan Keiser - "Pulling Out of the Yard"

There were no entries in Model Color Slides, Prototype Black and White, or Model Black and White.

There will be a full contest at the December meet. All categories are open for entries:

Prototype Slides, Color Prints, and Black and White Prints
Model Slides, Color Prints, and Black and White Prints

Let's see more entries in all the categories next time!!!

If you would like Photo Contest entry forms or information, feel free to call Joe Pennington during the evening at: (415) 967-7097.

Classified Ads

FOR SALE: Model RR magazines -
1960-1990. MR, RMC and some others. $6 per year. $5 per year for 3 years or more. Contact Fred Verrier, 889 Brookgrove Lane, Cupertino, CA 95014, or call (408) 253-9669.

YOUR AD HERE: Free to Coast Division members
Submit to the *Coast Dispatcher* - see information on page 2.

Spring Layout Tour
April 17-19, 1998

...Ken Lass

Once again, members of the Coast Division will have an opportunity to be inspired by the work of their fellow hobbyists in the Bay Area. In 1997, 41 pikes were on display as part of the Division Layout Tour program.

Once an annual event, the Tour now spans two weekends. The Spring tour is focused on the northern sector of the Division, while layouts to the south are featured in the Fall. With less windshield time, you have a better chance to see all the model railroads on display.

Our next event is scheduled for April 17th, 18th and 19th, 1998. It is expected that 20 to 30 layouts will be open for viewing.

If you or an acquaintance are willing to open your layout to visitors, please contact Ken Lass, Layout Tour Coordinator. Layouts do not have to be fully operational or scenicked, but should have some train movement. Unique features might be bench- or trackwork, control systems, intriguing car routing systems, detailed rolling stock, interesting structures or historical models.

TO PARTICIPATE AS A VISITOR:

- Address a #10 envelope to yourself.
- Print your PCR Membership Number in the lower left-hand corner of the envelope.
- Stuff that envelope with **two** $1 bills.
- Enclose the envelope in a second envelope and mail to Ken Lass at the address below before March 25, 1998 *or* deposit in the envelope bucket under the Tour display at the March Coast Division meet.

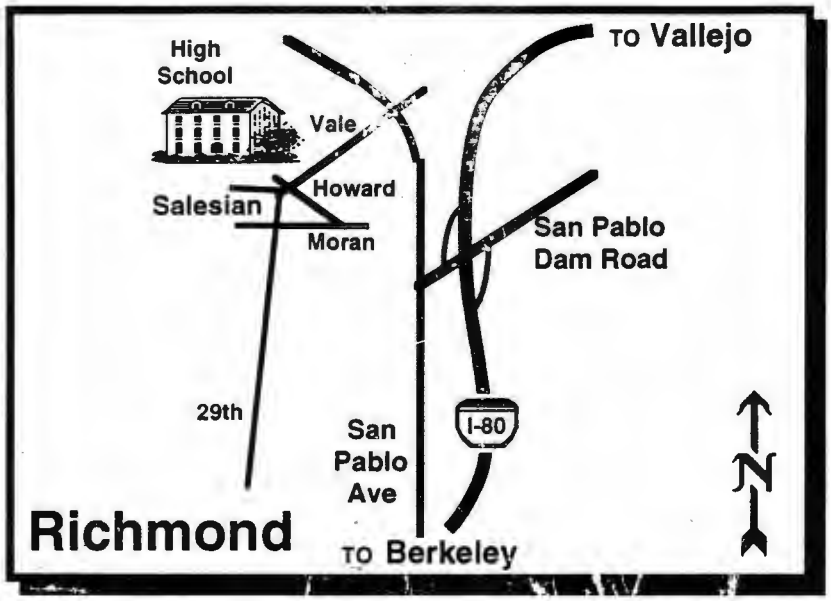
Envelopes will be available (you supply the two bucks) at the March meet. Your PCR membership must be current to participate in the Layout Tour program.

For further information, call or write:

Coast Division Layout Tours
c/o Ken Lass
712 Taylor Avenue
Alameda, CA 94501
(510) 865-4930 (6PM-9PM)

Winter Meet: Salesian High School, Richmond

December 7, 1997

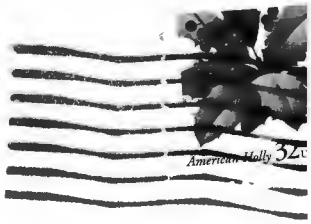


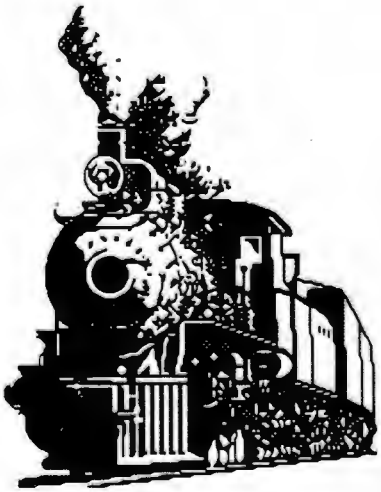
Schedule:

9:30 ..... Open
Auction Cards Available
10:00-12:00 ... Contest Entries
10:00-Noon?...Silent Auction
10:00 Clinic: SP in the City
-Bill Burket
11:00 Clinic: WP Railroading
-Steve Hayes
12:00 ..... Business Meeting
12:30 ..... Getting Rolling
(New Members' Clinic)
1:00 ..... Auction Begins
2:?? ..... Raffle, Doorprizes
6:00 ..... Clean-up

Coast Dispatcher
132 Westfield Circle
Danville, CA 94526

OAKLAND CA 346
PM
22 NOV
1997





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DOUGLAS COWARD
5633 IMPATIENS COMMON
FREMONT, CA 94538